

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

When a child enters Garden Fields School the child, his/her parents or carers and the school all sign an agreement to show what each party will do to further that child's education. Your son or daughter will be asked to promise to:

Get to school on time, correctly dressed and properly equipped

Follow school rules and try their best at all times, at home and at school

Show politeness and friendliness to all children and adults in school.

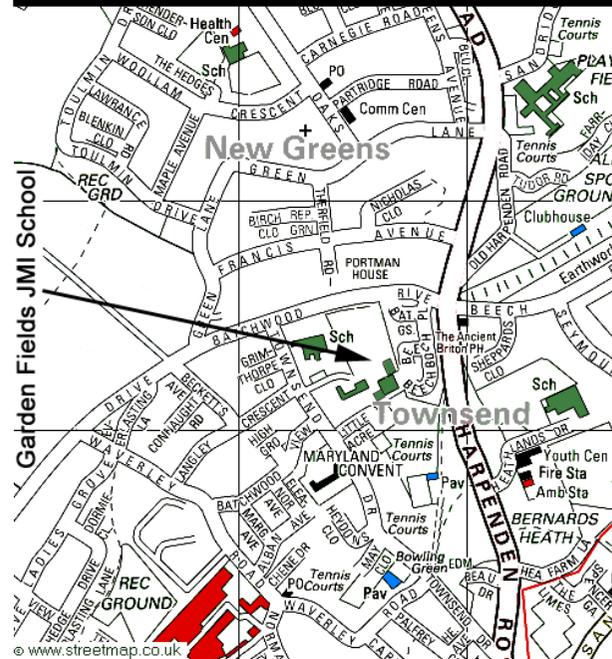
HOW TO APPLY

If you would like your child to join Garden Fields please arrange to visit the school and see it working, to meet the staff and talk with the Headteacher. If your child is of pre-school age you should receive a **County Admissions Pack** in the Autumn term prior to the academic year in which your child starts school. This will explain the process to you. If you have any questions you can contact the Admissions Team on 0300 1234 043. Parents can defer the date their child is admitted to school until later in the academic year or until the term in which their child(ren) reaches compulsory school age. (See Herts Admissions information booklet Pg 5.)

Before starting school, you and your child will be invited to spend some time with us, meeting the Headteacher, class teacher and others associated with giving your child a good start to their education.

Please look at the school admissions page on www.hertsdirect.org. Primary admissions opens on 7th November 2016 and closes on 15 January 2017.

HOW TO FIND US



TIMES OF THE SCHOOL DAY

We operate a soft start programme for children in Yrs 1-6. Children can access their classrooms from 8:40am.

Morning session: 8.50 a.m. - 12.00 p.m.

Lunch EYFS & KS1: 12.00 - 1.00 p.m.

Lunch KS2: 12.25 - 1.30 p.m.

Afternoon session: 1.00 - 3.15 p.m.

There is a morning break for all children.

There is an afternoon break for children in EYFS & KS1.

KS2 children may have a break in the afternoon. This is at the teachers' discretion.

Welcome to
**Garden Fields
JMI School**



**Townsend Drive,
St. Albans,
Herts., AL3 5RL.**

Tel: 01727 890440

Email: admin@gardenfields.herts.sch.uk

Web Site: www.gardenfields.herts.sch.uk

Twitter: @gfs_stalbans

Headteacher: Mr A Farrugia



Welcome to Garden Fields!

This leaflet is intended to give you a brief guide to our school. Please take time to view our website which will provide you with a clear overview.

Garden Fields is a Junior Mixed and Infants school with 480 children on roll. All pupils are taught in single-age classes of 30. From September 2015 we expanded to 3 form intake, We admit 90 pupils in our Reception year group.

Although it began in 1896 in Catherine Street in the town centre, Garden Fields has continued to expand and develop in its present lovely grounds since the 1970's. We are fortunate to **have a large playing field, five playgrounds, a tyre park, climbing wall, outdoor theatre and an environmental area with school pond.**

Garden Fields provides a bright and lively learning environment for the development of your child.

All children wear **school uniform** and are expected to look neat and tidy at all times. The uniform, coloured blue and grey, is obtainable through Stevensons in Victoria Street or online through PMG Schoolwear.

All children are taught the National Curriculum subjects plus Religious Education. Standard Assessment Tests in Years 2 & 6 and the Phonics Screening Check in Y1 show our children achieve at well above national standards. Pupils with special educational or nurturing needs are additionally supported by specialist staff either individually or within small groups.

Home Learning is set regularly for children in Years 1 - 6 in accordance with our Home Learning Policy. Children are also encouraged to take their reading books home on a daily basis to share with their parents.

Pupils are organised into four **House Teams - Batchwood, Harpenden, Townsend and Waverley**. They are given house points for good work, good behaviour and for courtesy and effort. Pupils from Year 6 are elected as House, Sport and Music Captains. They are also given monitor roles to carry out around the school to develop responsibility in accordance with our Pastoral Care Policy.

We have a strong Anti-Bullying Policy which is empathetic and effective.

Children are able to bring packed lunch or to have school dinner, cooked on our premises. All children may also have **milk** each day and they can bring **bottled water** from home or alternatively use the school fountains. **Fruit/vegetable** is available for EYFS and KS1 children as a morning snack. All EYFS and KS1 children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals.

There are a variety of **extra-curricular clubs** and activities for your child to enjoy. Breakfast and lunchtime clubs can include pop dance, netball, choir, tennis and French. There are also football, ballet and karate clubs after school. There are also many inter-school sports and music activities to join in. **Year 6 take part in a residential school journey for one week to Manor Adventure. Our Year 5 students take part in a 3 day residential trip to France. Our Year 4 children take part in an overnight trip to Phasels Wood.** All classes go on outings. Music lessons in guitar, violin, piano, and flute (for which fees are payable) are available.

The School Governing Body, which includes four elected parents, oversees the operational running of the school. It also supports, advises and encourages the work at Garden Fields. **Governors** are usually available informally at our "Parent Teacher Consultations" and our regular "Parent Forums".

We **welcome parental support** in school. Parents help in a variety of ways - listening to readers, accompanying children on educational visits, helping with sports, arts, crafts and music.

Garden Fields has an active **Parent Teacher Association** which organises a variety of social, educational and fundraising activities. These provide additional resources such as playground equipment, maths and science equipment, reprographic equipment and subsidising coach trips for the benefit of all our pupils.

Each year children vote for **Junior Leadership Team** members who represent their class at regular meetings, discussing ways to further improve the school. We expect our pupils to leave school confident, self-motivated and equipped to meet the challenge of secondary education.

Reception: "children settle into Reception quickly, develop good social skills and build their confidence. They make good progress in all areas of learning."

Ofsted. November 2013